



Water Permits Division e-Newsletter

A SUMMARY OF WATER PERMITTING NEWS & EVENTS

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JULY—AUGUST 2008

PERMITS ISSUED

1/1/08—7/31/08

Individual Minors	96
Individual Majors	10
Sewage Sludge & Bio-solids Use or Disposal	6

GENERAL PERMITS

Class I Sanitary	2156
Class II Sanitary	34
Class III Sanitary	2
Class IV Sanitary	26
Large Construction	540
Sand & Gravel	8
Petroleum UST	3
Oil & Gas Exploration	83
Autodealer	17
Hydrostatic Test	132
Exterior Vehicle Wash	48
Potable Water	6
Cement, Concrete & Asphalt	20
C&D Landfill	7
Groundwater	2
Multisector	92

% CURRENT

MAJORS	83%
MINORS	96%

Water Permits Division to Issue Newsletter

LDEQ Water Permits Division (WPD) will publish a Quarterly Newsletter to provide the regulated community, citizens, and other interested parties with updates and information relevant to the division. Bimonthly Newsletters will be published from July through December of 2008 transitioning to quarterly newsletters in January 2009. To make the newsletter an effective means of communication, we need your input and comments. Please contact Aimee Killeen or Melvin Mitchell at 225-219-3181/3013 with any suggestions.

Water Permits Division Staff Update

Effective July 1, 2008, Melvin "Mitch" Mitchell was reassigned from Laboratory Services Division to Water Permits Division, replacing Lenny Young, who is now the Department's Ombudsman. Administrative Assistants, Vicki Minor and Radina Waxley left the WPD in August to pursue new endeavors.

Environmental Scientist Internships (ESI) Created

The LDEQ-ESI program will offer the opportunity for local graduate students to develop an understanding of LPDES water discharge permitting system while fostering a greater comprehension of state regulations. This program has been developed and sponsored by LDEQ's Office of Environmental Services, Water Permits Division to allow graduate students the chance to complete research/work assignments while employed at LDEQ. A [BROCHURE](#) with additional information can be found on LDEQ's Water Permits Division website.

Class II Sanitary General (LAG540000) Reissued

The LAG540000 master general permit was reissued with an effective date of 7/1/08. The new general permit incorporates several new schedules to accommodate various water quality based scenarios due to TMDLs and water quality impairments. Facilities covered under the previous LAG570000 should continue to operate under that permit until receipt of reissued coverage from the Water Permits Division. Facilities with existing coverage do not have to reapply. For questions concerning the new [LAG540000](#), please contact Eura Dehart or Rachel Davis at 225-219-3181.

LPDES MQL Update in Process

Water Permits Division, at the request of EPA Region 6, is in the process of updating the Minimum Quantification Levels. These are currently contained in Louisiana's WQMP Guidance Document for the Implementation of the states water quality standards. Changes in the MQLs are being driven by the availability of more sensitive test methods that more accurately quantify the levels of potential pollutants present in a discharge. These updates will affect the methods used to sample for permit compliance as well as the analysis run during the application process. Updates will be published no later than 2009 for public comment prior to final implementation.

U.S. Congress Halts Vessel Permits

On July 29, 2008, Senate bill S. 2766 (the Clean Boating Act of 2008) was signed into law. This law provides that recreational vessels shall not be subject to the requirement to obtain an NPDES permit to authorize discharges incidental to their normal operation. The law also imposes a two-year moratorium during which time NPDES permits for discharges incidental to the normal operation of vessels of less than 79 feet and commercial fishing vessels of any length can not be issued. Information can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/npdes/vessels>.

Sewage Sludge Hauler Licensing coming to DEQ

Effective July 1, 2009, SB 326 of the 2008 legislative session authorized the move of the state's sewage sludge hauler licensing program from DHH to DEQ. Moving the program to DEQ means that the regulation of sewage sludge generation, transportation and disposal will be contained within one agency. Watch for more information on the WPD website.

WPD to teach EnviroSchool

Water Permits Division will take its turn teaching LDEQ's EnviroSchool in February of 2009. Water Permits 101: Understanding the Process will take participants through the major regulations that govern the LPDES program. The presentation will provide a flow-chart of permit stages, define who needs a permit, supply permit examples and offer ways citizens and the community can become involved in the process. More information on EnviroSchool can be found on LDEQ's public website at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2601/Default.aspx>

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